

RALLY SHOWS UNITY



NO CONVO. CREDIT — A capacity crowd crammed the Student Center last night equipped with signs, smiles and soaring optimism.

Students See Strike As Last Resort

The key words to describe the students who attended the Mass Meeting last night in the Student Center Social Room are "psyched-up."

"The strike should come only as a last resort, but if it comes I will honor it, along with most of the others that I talked to about it," said Peter Craig, a junior majoring in electrical engineering.

The main reaction to the meeting by most students who attended was emotional.

"I was most impressed by the amount of the emotion that the students showed at the meeting and they acted amazingly mature during the whole thing," said Joe McIntyre, a sophomore majoring in history. "It is the most enthusiasm that the students have shown for anything since I started school here."

Of those that were interviewed after the meeting, all were in favor of a strike as a last resort.

"I think the students are mature enough to handle the additional power if they were given the chance to use it," said Barry Chavkin, a junior majoring in marketing. "The Administration needs something to keep them up on their toes."

The major alternative to a strike was felt to be pressure by parents.

"If parents would get organized I think they could shake up the Administration as effectively as a strike could," said Steven Epstein, a sophomore majoring in history. "However, I would also honor a strike if it were called. All my friends would also."

There were mixed reactions to President Henry W. Littlefield's absence. Attending a previous engagement in North Carolina, the President was criticized for not having enough interest in the students to appear when they be-

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Soaring Student Emotions Mirror Mass Discontent

What started out quietly with the murmur of voices ended the same way last night in the Student Center, but what happened in between was what counted. In a mass meeting called by Student Council President Stuart Broms, approximately 2,000 students voiced support for Council's attack on the Administration.

Last spring, Broms and Steven Reinberg, Council vice-president, told the student body that they would make things happen on campus. They were elected by a narrow majority over their opponents; Peter Fuerbringer and Skip Pelly. At that time, the Scribe reported a "heavy" turnout of 1,621 students. Last night's turnout, though a bit less organized than the elections, seemed

to be a refutation of the apathy label which many have pinned on the University student body from time to time.

The crowd was more responsive than any seen at previous Friday and Saturday night events held at John F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium. When the time came to cheer; they cheered. When the time came to be serious; they were just that. When former student Council president John Harm decried the "emotionalism" involved, Broms countered that "the cure for apathy seems to be emotionalism."

Down in the cafeteria, the lower lobby, and the pool room, there was a noticeable lack of students. Most of them seemed

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The big question with the Student Council's push for "student power" seems to be, "Where to now?"

At a meeting of 2,000 students in the Social Room of the Student Center last night, Student Council leaders modified the previous student union stand and called for a Faculty-Student assembly.

After the meeting, however, Senior Class president James Klaber noted that it is up to University President Henry W. Littlefield "to act positively or maintain his past attitude."

"We are responsible and mature enough to decide how we should be educated," Stuart Broms, president of Student Council said.

"The students at this University need a voice. The University has paid lip service to student rights too long," he continued. "We have been referred to committees too long. It is time that this changes."

Broms then outlined a proposal to be substituted for the first proposed "student union" which he called "not good enough."

Broms called for the institution of a 24-member assembly of 12 students and 12 faculty members chaired by President Henry W. Littlefield.

"The administration had better start to take recognition of the students of this University," he added.

"The University of Bridgeport should be the model for the country, not a Berkeley or a Brooklyn," he said.

Klaber said University students are not the first to ask for student rights. "It is an intellectual movement that is sweeping across the United States."

Klaber, who was the first to speak, announced that President Littlefield was in North Carolina. He then read from the UB 1967-68 catalogue and an excerpt from the President's opening convocation speech.

He quoted from the President's opening Convocation speech: "What a wonderful place a university would be if each of its groups would open wide the doors to communication."

Klaber then asked, "How can we communicate with a man that is 800 miles away?"

"It is true the president had a prior commitment in North Carolina," he said, "but shouldn't the welfare of the University come first?"

Klaber said that the story about the University losing its accreditation because of the lack of books in the library is only a rumor, but, he maintained that in a good University a rumor like this would have no basis for even beginning.

"We have 140,000 volumes, which is one quarter of a million short," he said.

The new girls dorm was built for 450 men. There is no closet

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Two Points of View

The Post

An arrogant ultimatum has been issued by a group of students demanding a "union" at the University of Bridgeport.

It is hard to believe that youngsters who have yet to earn a bachelor's degree would have the nerve to tell the university administration it has a 72-hour deadline for action on their revolutionary proposals. In 72 hours, Dr. Henry W. Littlefield, university president, has been told, action on the proposal is expected. If not, "unilateral" action is threatened.

The accent on haste squares with an unthinking attitude. In 72 hours, centuries or tradition must melt away in the heat of a student stampede. The University of Bridgeport Student Council members obviously are not thinking for themselves if they voted unanimously, as reported, for such a radical proposal. Is there not one member of the Council who questioned such a momentous move?

There may be a need for greater student participation in university decisions. It might not be unreasonable to desire more say by students in matters directly affecting them. It might make for a better university.

But is there any need for a "union" organized along the lines of a labor group which obviously is not geared to a university. The students making such demands as parking lots have done nothing to earn them. The fact is, millions of dollars have been donated to the university through the strenuous efforts of university leaders who now are being confronted with harsh demands.

We hope the university administration deals firmly with these demanding students. A "headless" university is worthless.

(Reprinted from the Bridgeport Post, Saturday, Oct. 21).

Mass Discontent...

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to be upstairs listening intently to the comments and accusations of Broms, Reinberg, senior class president James Klaber, and various speakers. A few students voiced opinions against the proposals to strike, boycott, and even protest, but the student body was in no mood to listen. They were satisfied to listen to what their elected leaders had to say, in an atmosphere of "ultimatum." As one student, lending her support, put it, "We want to be proud of this school."

When Harm accused the student body and its leaders of "looking for a strike," he was answered by a chorus of denial. As the students listened quietly, Broms told them that the strike was a last ditch effort.

When the question was raised as to how many students were willing to face possible debarment, the silence was in a large majority. Apparently only a small minority was willing to go this far. In contrast, Klaber drew the crowd to him when he said, "I will be the only one out there with a sign if that's the way it has to be... I stand to lose more than I gain. We must see that our voice is heard."

Whether it was lack of courage or total agreement, it was significant that possibly a dozen students, with the addition of graduate Harm, were the only dissenters against the ideas of the student leaders.

With signs bearing the cries of "Purple Power," "A Plea for Education," and "Research in the Library Is a Farce," one thing was evident in the Student Center Social Room last night: student unity.

As students filed out of the Student Center at 10 p.m., the talk was of "what we want," "They're right all the way," and "Now maybe something will get done around here."

Klaber noted that the first move will be made tomorrow when barrels will be placed in front of Cortright Hall. All students have been asked to deposit their "Keys to U.B." and other material provided by the administration in the barrels.

Klaber also noted that every day a circular called "U.B. Informed" will be put out by Student Council. He noted that these publications will continue 'until we discuss all 29 points and what we mean by each point. He added that some points will be watered down, since some are not quite feasible.

President Littlefield has agreed to meet with student leaders on Monday. Klaber said that what further action will be taken depends on the attitude at Monday's meeting. "We will not be pushed into a corner, despite what John Harm said," he added.

"Our show of support was tonight," said Klaber. "By student mandate, we have shown that we are willing and able and capable to act in a mature manner."

The Scribe

Last night's rally in the Student Center came as a sharp reply to the above editorial; no arrogant, militant demands were made, but rather a cry from more than 2,000 students — almost out of desperation — that students at Bridgeport have the right to participate in the academic and administrative affairs of their University.

There is no revolution at Bridgeport, for we agree, as was pointed out last night by several Council leaders, the movement at Bridgeport is a "conservative one," not a radical, unilateral proposal.

The demand for a union, really, could not have been taken with any seriousness, we believe. Why, Council members were answering questions by the area's "seasoned" newspaper reporters with tongues in cheek. And, oddly enough, the newspapers promulgated their "radical" proposal, all to the delight of the Bridgeport student leaders attempting to arouse the student community.

There is no movement at the University to melt tradition, for tradition itself sometimes melts away as new generations and reforms find new solutions to old problems. This is precisely the Student Council's purpose.

We feel they have made their point. Now the work lies ahead.

The next few days will witness the making or breaking of this entire episode of student awareness. The proposal to establish a Student-Faculty assembly is nothing new, although it does mark a moderation of the Council's stand for student boycotts and such.

We hope the movement underfoot will succeed and succeed only on the merits that the proposals advanced will be well-thought out — not like the childish move to collect in trashcans University orientated "Keys to U.B." or school policies.

The mass meeting seems to have led to a unity within the student body.

Let the leaders of the movement proceed under the supposition that they are, in the words, "responsible students and citizens."

Then perhaps, President Littlefield will exhibit his own responsibilities as the head of the University and listen to the people who make up its body politic. For, as journalistic canons state, there are two sides to every story. Let them both be heard.

Students Psyched...

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gan making their interests known. "I think that if the President had an engagement he should have broken it considering his main job is supposed to be at the University," said McIntyre. "I just have to assume that it was more convenient for him to be away."

Some criticisms were also made concerning the effectiveness of a strike and what pressure it would actually have on the Administration.

"It would seem to me that the Administration could very well just sit back and laugh," said Craig. "They already have our money for the semester so why should they take much notice?"

"The school really has something, everyone at the meeting was there with a common cause and people were actually listening to what was being said. It was really quite exciting," said Larry Albert, a sophomore ma-

joring in marketing. "If I felt that the majority were going to strike I would also."

The impressions of the method in which the meeting was handled were all favorable of those interviewed.

The question in the minds of many students is whether the enthusiasm will hold.

One coed felt that it would not. "I don't think that the tension will last for a whole week. It is hard to keep up the tension."

Another coed felt that tomorrow would once again bring apathy. "I don't think you can keep students interested long enough to do any good."

"I don't see how we could have helped but have shaken up the Administration already," said Lewis. "I am not sure that a strike would actually prove anything, but if one is staged I think it is important that the students stay together, so as a last resort I would strike."

Rally Shows Unity...

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space for the girls. There is no reason for this, Klaber said.

On the strike issue Broms maintained that nothing will happen until President Littlefield is satisfied. He and other student leaders will meet with the president on his return from North Carolina Monday.

Council will present to the President a streamlined version of the first list of 29 proposals presented to him Thursday.

There are six main divisions in the number of proposals to be offered. They include improvements in the library, unlimited cuts, faculty evaluation, faculty and class schedules at the time of registration, voice and vote on the Faculty Senate and Deans' Council, and in the last point, off-campus housing, better quality in dormitories, increased quality of the

Bookstore, better dining hall facilities, more effective security force, and the maintaining of the Student Center as a center for students.

The President's approval or disapproval will determine the next move, Broms said. "Until then," he said, "You must remain concerned. You must keep the momentum."

Today, Broms has called for students to take their Keys to UB, regulations for the dormitories, "everything the University has ever given you, and give it back" into barrels that have been placed in front of Cortright Hall.

"A strike will be used only as a last resort, but it is the only weapon we have against the University," Broms said. "We need unified student responsibility. As a unified whole we can accomplish our goals."

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